

Chattanooga National Military Park and the Southeast Field Area's Museum Services Division began the process of converting the data on the Fuller Collection to CD-ROM. In addition to data from the newly updated Automated National Catalog System (National Park Service automated museum catalog) catalog records, Mr. Fuller's 700 pages of typescript notes on the weapons, a pair of photographic images of each weapon, and other data from Fuller's papers will be included in the CD-ROM format. When completed, the CD-ROM will represent each weapon in the Fuller Collection and most of the associated items as well as incorporating Mr. Fuller's knowledge of his collection.

Visitors viewing the collection who desire more information will be able to access the CD-ROM information by entering the weapon's displayed catalog number into one or more terminals in the exhibit area. The system will then display the descriptive data on each weapon from the ANCS catalog card, the text of Mr. Fuller's notes on that weapon, an overall photograph and a

breech area photograph of the weapon, and other applicable data including cross references to related arms in the collection. This electronic system will replace the present need for the visitor to leave the collection display area and inquire at the information desk (where a staff member has to retrieve a bound copy of Mr. Fuller's typescript notes from the National Military Park's Longstreet/Thomas Library). With CD-ROM terminals in the collection exhibit area, visitors will be more directly served and additional research interest will be fueled. A controlled means to provide the visitors with a hard copy of the data is also being explored.

When the project is completed, modern technology will be providing access to technology of an earlier age; Mr. Fuller's legacy to the American people will be entering today's information age.

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Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records and the World Wide Web

The CoPAR WWW site at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/homepage/exhibits.html>.

Anthropology is concerned with the study, documentation and understanding of human biological, cultural, and linguistic diversity. Anthropological archives are unique and irreplaceable repositories of primary data about human and cultural diversity, commonalities among peoples, anthropological research, as well as the history of the discipline.

What is CoPAR?

A new organization created by anthropologists, archivists, librarians, and scholars, the Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records (CoPAR) identifies, preserves, and encourages the use of the archival and manuscript collections documenting anthropological research.

CoPAR's goal is to convince record producers, collectors, and holders that they are stewards

CoPAR
Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records

Mission and Statement of Principles

The Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records (CoPAR) was incorporated in February 1995 to identify, encourage the preservation, and foster the use of the records of anthropological research. Anthropology is concerned with the study, documentation, and understanding of human biological, cultural and linguistic diversity. Anthropological records contain primary data about, and provide the basis for, continuing research on human diversity, as well as the history of the discipline. Anthropological records thus present a unique and irreplaceable segment of human knowledge. CoPAR has as its objective the initiation of programs to: assess inventories and the importance of records preservation; provide information on records location and access; help provide support for existing repositories; provide consulting and technical services; and conduct special projects as needed. This objective is outlined in the following statement of principles:

1. Anthropological records contain irreplaceable information about human and cultural diversity and commonalities. These records are at risk.
2. Producers, collectors, and holders of these records are stewards of them and the information they contain.
3. Stewardship implies certain responsibilities, among them:
 - o To assure that the records are properly preserved and passed on to future generations;
 - o To be aware that information contained in the records has complex meanings for the subjects, producers, collectors, holders, and managers of them;
 - o To be aware that there are often conflicting ethical and legal issues relating to those records and the uses that may be made of them;
 - o To collaborate with subjects, producers, collectors, holders and managers of records to insure the proper preservation of, and access to, those records, and access to, those records.

CoPAR is sponsored by the major anthropological organizations in the United States in cooperation with other relevant professional organizations, such as the Society for American Archivists and the American Library Association, and government agencies, such as the National Park Service.

Workshops

of these records, responsible to future generations. Anthropological archival and manuscript collection stewards must preserve and make accessible their records. CoPAR plans to ensure the preservation and access of these records by:

- Cooperatively training the record stewards
- Identifying potential resource sources and cooperators for this work
- Developing a master descriptive database, the National Guide to Anthropological Records, on the World Wide Web.

What is the National Guide to Anthropological Records?

CoPAR will encourage records creators, collectors, and holders to participate in the National Guide to Anthropological Records database to be mounted on the World Wide Web. The database will document the location, content, and preservation status of existing anthropological records, thus serving as a union guide of anthropological archives, manuscripts, and personal papers in the United States at the archival collection-level.

An average descriptive record in the Guide is expected to be around 2,000 characters with the data query form including the following fields:

- Archival collection title
- Accession number
- Principle investigator/collector
- Sponsor/funding source
- Principle investigator/collector
- Sponsor/funding source
- Temporal context of the data
- Dates of the collection
- Keywords on the
 - Subject/topic
 - Culture/ethnicity
 - Linguistic systems

CoPAR's work involves the development of:

- Database files based upon a survey on anthropological archives, libraries, and individuals' holdings
- Search engine
- Data entry system
- User (searcher) interface for use via WWW and telnet protocols that includes
 - Map Viewer with zoom and hide capabilities
 - Place marks
 - Variable Display capabilities

What is CoPAR's Charge to Records Creators, Collectors, and Holders?

CoPAR believes that anthropological records stewardship implies responsibilities:

- To ensure that the records are preserved for future generations.
- To be aware that the information found in archives has complex meanings for the

subjects, producers, collectors, holders, and managers of the records.

- To be aware that there are often conflicting ethical and legal issues relating to those records and their potential users.
- To collaborate with subjects, producers, collectors, holders, and managers of records to ensure the proper preservation of, and access to these records.

What is the Project Schedule?

Workshops were held in spring 1995 to prepare the ground for the National Guide to Anthropological Records. The first workshop-held in Tempe, Arizona, in March 1995-developed a discipline-wide set of minimal descriptive standards for anthropological records based on archival professional standards. The second workshop-held in Reno, Nevada, in April 1995-developed a framework for outreach and education of the various archival, anthropological, and library constituencies including standards, guidance, and workshops.

A proposal for development of the database was submitted by Arizona State University staff to the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training and the National Endowment for the Humanities in spring 1995. Work on the database is scheduled to begin in fall 1995, pending funding.

Who Sponsors or Collaborates with CoPAR?

Collaborating institutions include the following:

- Arizona State University's Department of Anthropology
- University of Arkansas's Center for Advanced Spatial Technology
- University of Nevada at Reno's Department of Anthropology
- Arizona State Museum
- National Park Service's Museum Management and Archeology and Ethnography programs.

CoPAR is also sponsored by the major anthropological organizations in cooperation with the Society of American Archivists and the American Library Association. The Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research has provided ongoing funding for the project. For a peek at CoPAR plans, see the CoPAR WWW site at <http://aspin.asu.edu/provider/anthro/copar>.

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